



Region of Waterloo

Summer 2021



Keeping residents informed about waste management programs and services

Waste Management eNews



Hello, summer!

After another spring dealing with COVID, we’re welcoming the summer temperatures and feeling energized by the cautious re-opening of Ontario. (Dare I say, it’s feeling a little more “normal”.) In this edition, we have tips and reminders to help you all summer long. Enjoy and stay safe!



COVID-19 Update:

For the latest local statistics and information, go to the Region’s [COVID-19 page](#) main page. [Click here](#) to book a vaccine.

For a list of all the waste-related COVID rules and updates, go to our [Collection Matters](#) page.

For the safety of our collection crews, please bag all garbage, and put all green bin organics in [paper or certified compostable bags](#). Remember to tie all bags closed.

A big thanks to you!

Preparing your waste correctly helps our environment, community, and collection crews. For example, by recycling blue box materials properly, you help conserve resources, prevent litter, divert waste from landfill, and make collection efficient.



Summertime ideas and reminders



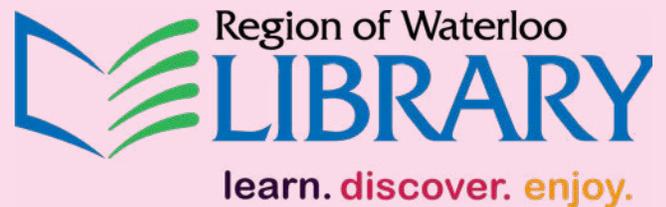
Notice to cyclists:

If you are cycling and find one of our crews collecting waste in your lane ahead, please stop and wait until they are finished. Crews may have [bulky items](#) to get into their trucks (such as furniture) and need to be as close as possible to the curb.

Thank you for your patience.

Summertime reading list!

There's nothing like relaxing with a good book. If you are interested in learning about living sustainably, upcycling and crafting, we've got you covered! Check out our [lists for children and adults](#) - and order from our [library](#) today!



Top 5 ways to save (and not waste!) time

1. Grasscycle! Leave grass clippings on the lawn
2. [Prevent pests](#) in your green bin and other waste containers.
3. Avoid [OOPS stickers](#).
4. Know [how to deal with your waste](#) when your street is under construction
5. Getting a lot of deliveries to your home? [Here are details](#) on why and how to recycle cardboard.



Want to get 'appy?

Download Waste Whiz app. It's free, and so useful:

- find your collection schedule
- use the search box to learn how to handle any waste item
- schedule reminders.

Plus you can play our fun and ever-changing sorting game, and more! Click the button below to get details about the app and access to the desktop version,

Get 'appy! Visit our
Waste App page

Compost and mulch give-away update:

From April to early May residents picked up tonnes of compost that we made from the [Yard Waste program](#). In fact, it was all we had! We will [update our website](#) when the next batch is ready (likely in August). In the meantime,

- Pick up [mulch](#), available as supplies last
- Make your own [compost \(chocolate\) cake](#)
- Learn about [how to use compost and its benefits](#)
- Start [composting in your backyard](#).





Don't let any get away

- Do the [two-box sort](#)
- Use our [award-winning virtual tour](#) to find out how recycling makes a difference

Thank you for 15 years of green binning!

Where were you on September 18, 2006? Regional staff were distributing the very first green bins to our pilot areas.

Over the last 15 years the program has expanded across all seven municipalities. Together we've diverted over 180,000 metric tonnes of household organics from our [landfill](#) and [created compost](#).

When we started our program, it was all about recycle food scraps, but now there's more of a focus on food waste prevention. Below are some links to some helpful information:

- [How to handle and store food](#)
- Learn about [Canada's Food Waste Reduction Challenge](#)



Learn more, Do more

Holiday Collection: No changes to collection during the Civic Holiday in August and on Labour Day in September. However, our drop-off sites are closed to residents on those holidays.

Celebrate 40 years of [Blue Box recycling](#): In September, we will be celebrating this amazing program. Did you know it was invented in Kitchener? Stay tuned for details.

2020 Annual Report: Check out the latest statistics about our programs and operations.

Do you have a backyard chicken coop? [Here's how to deal with the various types of waste](#) it creates.

July 24: [International Self-Care Day](#)

September 16: [World Ozone Day](#)

September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation